

Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

Mission:

1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change



Committee Members:

Members: Steve Bernheim, Carolyn Chapel, Wes Gallagher, Wayne Grotheer, Hank Landau
City Staff: Mayor Gary Haakenson, Steve Fisher, Sally Lider, Noel Miller, Rob Chave, Jen Machuga, Jim Stevens, Linda Carl

Meeting Agenda

January 14, 2010

1. Reusable bag subcommittee report	Subcommittee
2. Climate Conversation – Earth Day, April 22, 2010	Bob F.
3. Update on draft climate action plan	Subcommittee
4. Miscellaneous	All
5. Next meeting date – 9 a.m., Thursday, February 4	

Meeting Notes

November 5, 2009

1. Update of the sustainability element of the Comp Plan

Rob Chave provided the committee with the latest draft of the sustainability element of the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that the Planning Board had a hearing a few weeks ago and passed the element on to the Council with just a few changes. A public hearing will be held at the Council on November 17. Rob encouraged the committee to go to the hearing and testify. He stated that the element is on track to be adopted by the end of the year.

2. Update of the draft Climate Action Plan

Steve Fisher provided the committee with the latest draft of the Climate Action Plan, which was updated from the version that was emailed to the committee with the agenda. Jeanne Blair stated that this is the overview document and that the appendices are several pages that supplement the overview document (Appendix D was handed out). Jeanne stated that as we take the plan into implementation, we now have a good guide for action and which action items will have the greatest impact. Hank Landau questioned if the large jump in numbers shown between 1990 and 2000 was due to annexations, and stated that it would be good to note in the plan if that is why the numbers increased so quickly. Janice Freeman stated that the Environment Section is not correct and wants to get together with Rob to discuss what the City has already done. She also stated that she'd like to take the plan to the Planning Board as soon as possible. Rob suggested that December would be the soonest it could go to Planning Board. He also said that the committee could ask the City Council to adopt a resolution of support. Wes Gallagher asked if someone would check the numbers in his calculations for Appendix D. Hank and Steve stated that they could check the numbers. Carolyn Chapel stated that she would like to draft a letter commending and thanking Jeanne for all of her hard work on the plan.

3. Reusable bag outreach program implementation discussion

Jen Machuga stated that as discussed at the last committee meeting, the Council passed an ordinance banning the use of plastic checkout bags. She stated that the ordinance includes an educational and outreach component, and that staff hopes that the committee will form a subcommittee to work on an educational/outreach program. Rob Chave stated that there is limited time for getting started on the program and suggested that the subcommittee come up with action items, prioritize those items, and make a plan prior to the next committee meeting. Carolyn Chapel, Val Stewart, Jeanne Blair, and Rebecca Wolfe volunteered to be on the subcommittee, while Steve Fisher, Jen Machuga, and Rob Chave will be the staff members on the subcommittee. Strom Peterson had indicated interest in helping with the outreach program at the last meeting, so Rob suggested including Strom on the subcommittee. Bob Freeman offered that the subcommittee could post press releases or announcements on the Sustainable Edmonds website.

4. Update of the EECBG program

Rob Chave stated that the City received approval of a \$160,000 federal grant. The grant money will go toward purchasing hybrid vehicles, upgrading computers so that they can be shut down overnight and automatically turned on for updates, conducting a feasibility study for a ground source heat pump system to replace the existing boiler system at the Anderson Center, replacing the lights at the Public Works yard with low-energy lighting, and purchasing energy meters for citizens to borrow. Rob stated that the energy meters will likely require the most outreach, so he may ask the committee for help. Implementation would likely be in early 2010. Bob Freeman commented that this could fit in with what Sustainable Edmonds is doing. Carolyn Chapel stated that she borrowed an energy meter from PUD last year and that it did not come with instructions and was very difficult to operate. She recommended that the City buy meters that are easy for citizens to understand.

5. Climate Conversation – Earth Day, April 22, 2010

Bob Freeman stated that he would like for Sustainable Edmonds to conduct another climate conversation next Earth Day (April 22, 2010). He suggested that the main topic of the climate conversation be the Climate Action Plan.

6. Miscellaneous

Sally Lider announced several events scheduled for the week of Earth Day. The Spring Beach Cleanup will be held on April 17. The annual Watershed Fun Fair will be held at Yost Park on April 24. Edmonds has received certification as a Community Backyard Wildlife Habitat, and this year the Watershed Fun Fair will include a celebration of the City's certification. On April 25, there will be a Native Plant Demonstration Garden at the Willow Creek Fish Hatchery as well as a self-guided tour of Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitats in Edmonds. These events will be advertised in the Craze, and we might be able to tie together additional advertisement of these events with press releases for the Sustainable Edmonds Earth Day event.

Sally also commented that she recently viewed "Acid Test," which is a documentary about ocean acidification. She received a free DVD and offered to lend it out to anyone in the group who may be interested. Rebecca Wolfe said that she would like to borrow the DVD for the Sierra Club.

Rob Chave stated that he has been working with the American Planning Association (APA) on a "Sustainable Washington 2009: Planning for Climate Change" website, and said that he would email out the link to the committee.